

# Greetings from Rainbow Acres!

Thank you for helping us make FY 2019 an incredibly memorable year!

In 2019, we celebrated the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rainbow Acres during Family & Friends Weekend with the unveiling of a new history of Rainbow Acres; welcomed new Ranchers, caregivers and staff (and said good-bye to others); launched a new vocational program that helped more Ranchers develop their skills and gain off-campus employment; established a new Health & Wellness Center (with expanded space and services) in a newly-renovated Baldwin House; and, inspired by the vision of a new benefactor, began the process of creating a new community for adults with special needs in the urban setting of Sedona. What a year!

In 2019, we celebrated the *past*, utilized the *present*, and planned for the *future*!

However, little did we know the challenges that 2020 would bring! With the COVID-19 outbreak, we quickly shifted our focus to minimizing the pandemic's risk to the Ranchers and staff. Looking back now, the accomplishments of 2019 (including the expansion of the Health & Wellness Center) helped prepare us for the challenges to come! Thank you for your prayers and contributions! May God bless you for your support!

For the Ranchers,



Gary W. Wagner  
President & CEO

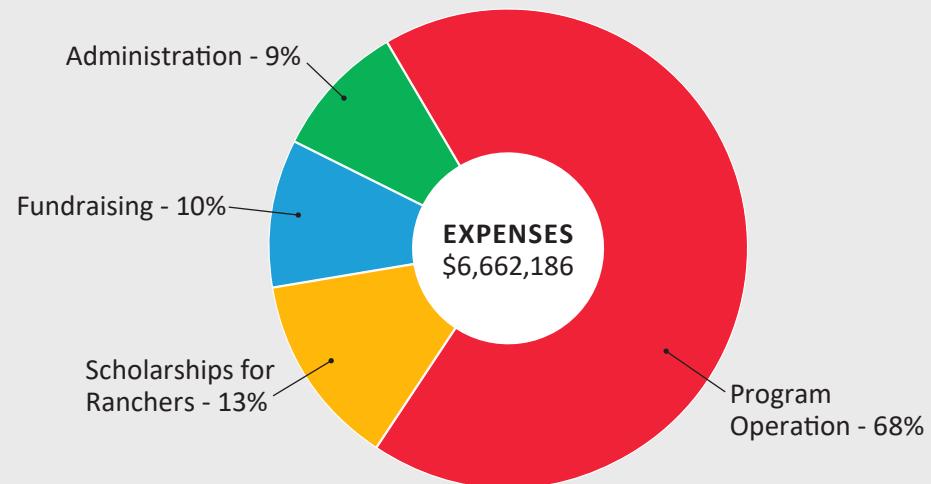
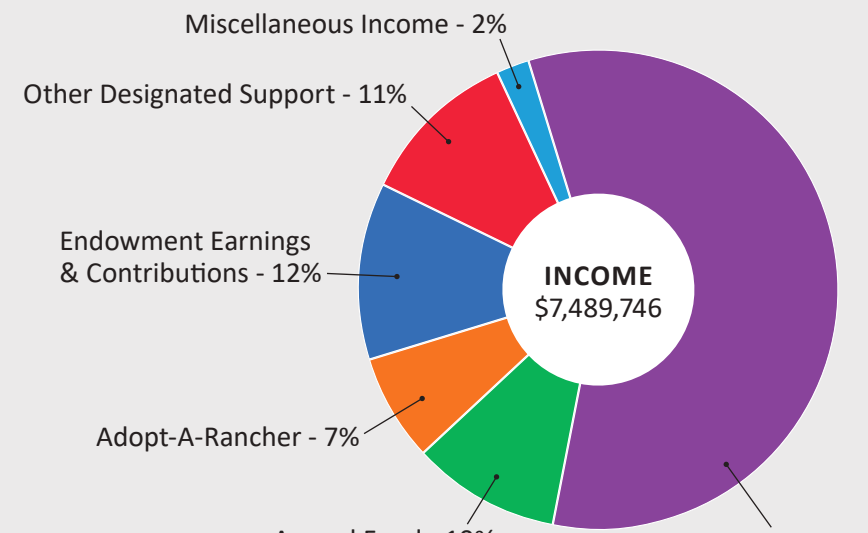
## RAINBOW ACRES SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

### ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	1,024,042.73
Accounts Receivable	-283,318.77
Other Current Assets	34,139.87
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>774,863.83</b>
Fixed Assets	11,019,317.48
Other Assets	3,540,556.33
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$15,334,737.64</b>

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	183,161.82
Other Current Liabilities	734,348.16
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>917,509.98</b>
Long Term Liabilities	125,327.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,042,836.98</b>
Equity	14,291,900.66
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$15,334,737.64</b>



# Rainbow Acres

A Residential Christian Community  
Serving Adults with  
Developmental Disabilities

## Our Mission

Rainbow Acres is a Christian community with heart that empowers persons with developmental disabilities to live to their fullest potential with dignity and purpose.

## About Us

Founded in 1974, Rainbow Acres is an independent, not-for-profit Christian ministry associated with the American Baptist Churches USA. It is licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services and is governed by an independent, self-perpetuating Board of Trustees from Arizona and across the nation. This ministry is made possible through generous regional and national contributions from numerous churches of all faiths, as well as individuals, foundations and corporations. Rainbow Acres is a 501(c)(3) organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service, and all contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the IRS code.

## Contact Us

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Rainbow Acres is an EAGLE Accredited Organization as established by the Accreditation Commission of the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

## QUICKFACTS

- ▶ In 2019, Rainbow Acres served 93 Ranchers hailing from 23 U.S. states
- ▶ Rainbow Acres recently completed over \$20 million in capital investments, the culmination of a long-term Master Site Development Plan
- ▶ Rainbow Acres received over 8,000 hours of service from 382 volunteers
- ▶ Ranchers provided hundreds of hours of volunteer service at the Verde Valley Humane Society, The Havens Nursing Home and Bread of Life Mission
- ▶ Spiritual activities generated high levels of participation on and off the Ranch, with over 70 Ranchers/caregivers attending local churches
- ▶ Rainbow Acres remains the only EAGLE Accredited social service agency in Arizona, a quality standard administered by the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries



## Annual Report FY 2019





### First donors and new donors honored during Legacy Luncheon

At the Legacy Luncheon, in honor of the 45th anniversary, Rainbow Acres recognized its very first donor along with one of its most significant donors in 2019. Gary Wagner, President & CEO, displayed a copy of the first donation Rainbow Acres received: \$50 from Phillip and Bonny Harvey of Camp Verde, AZ in 1973. Wagner presented the Harveys with the Mustard Seed Award for giving “the very first gift to establish the ministry of Rainbow Acres.” Also honored were one of Rainbow Acres’ most-recent donors: First Baptist Church, Santa Ana, in appreciation for the church’s substantial contribution through a legacy gift. Church members Jim and Shiril Stewart received the award on behalf of the church (shown here with Wagner and Church Relations Director Steve Roblee, who retired in 2019).



- #### ADMINISTRATION
- Celebrated 45th Anniversary with public events, publication of new history book
  - Recruited highly-qualified staff for admissions, education and nursing positions
  - Completed covenants with Lago Trust for Legacy Gift – Sedona Lago Gardens

### FAMILY & FRIENDS CELEBRATE RAINBOW ACRES’ 45TH ANNIVERSARY

In October, Rainbow Acres hosted Family & Friends Weekend, which this year doubled as the 45th Anniversary celebration! Activities for Rancher families and other guests included a Talent Show Thursday evening, the Legacy Luncheon on Friday afternoon, the unveiling of the new Rainbow Acres history book Friday night (followed by an incredible concert with the Rancher Choir), and an Open House on Saturday for family, friends and the public.

Visitors toured Rancher homes, the barn and the newly-restored greenhouses, the renovated Worden Taber Center, and the Daehler Building. On Saturday, Ranchers provided educational demonstrations in the Barn area and the Palmer Community Center, which was followed by a BBQ picnic on the grounds. Marilyn Showers and many members of the Showers family attended the Friday night celebration. Thank you to the volunteers from Hillside Community Church for their support. What a great way to celebrate 45 years of serving adults with special needs at Rainbow Acres!



### NEW COMMUNITY WILL EXPAND RAINBOW ACRES’ IMPACT INTO SEDONA

In 2019, Rainbow Acres was given an opportunity by The Lago Trust to establish a new community in Sedona – to be named Sedona Lago Gardens – for adults on the Autism spectrum or with similar disabilities. Board members vetted the project, which will be affiliated with Rainbow Acres but maintain separate resources and staff. “We will take a careful, thoughtful approach as we lay the groundwork,” Gary Wagner, President & CEO, said. “We want to take the principles at Rainbow Acres and adapt them for a residential community in an urban setting, with all that has to offer.”

To establish the new project, Barbara Lago is donating her home to Rainbow Acres upon her passing. As Mrs. Lago’s vision grew, she also acquired three adjacent properties with single-family houses. With her home, the properties being donated to Rainbow Acres encompass 10 acres with four dwellings, outlying barns, and amenities. In preparation for a soft opening, Rainbow Acres continued its planning process for Sedona Lago Gardens in 2020.



### Choir performs National Anthem at Diamondbacks game

Take me out to the ballgame! On July 20, the Rainbow Acres Traveling Choir was honored to sing the National Anthem at the Arizona Diamondbacks game! This was a first for Rainbow Acres and made for a very special day for the Ranchers! Over 130 Ranchers, staff members and friends attended to watch the Choir perform and the Diamondbacks take on the Milwaukee Brewers. The Choir’s spirited performance, which appeared on huge monitors in Chase Field stadium, drew great enthusiasm from the crowd. The choir was invited to perform during the Diamondbacks’ “Inclusion Day” which honors



individuals with special needs. Thanks to Larry Pittman for capturing the performance on video. This was a wonderful (and historic) day for the Ranchers and Rainbow Acres!

- #### BUILDINGS/GROUNDS
- Renovated Baldwin House as new Health & Wellness Center for on-site care
  - Installed new greenhouse and shade-house to enable year-round production
  - Started renovation in Daehler Building to expand space for Weaving, Music

### ADVANCEMENT

- Increased Adopt-A-Rancher and Scholarships support for 48 Ranchers in need
- Planned new fundraising event – The Imagine Gala (postponed to October 9, 2021)
- Cultivated new relationships with churches, foundations and other supporters

### Volunteer couple honored for creating Fine Arts Program

In April, Michael Redhawk and Marlys Mallét, an artist couple from Sedona, were recognized for establishing the Fine Arts Painting program, which has helped Ranchers explore their creative talent. At the Board of Trustees dinner, the couple (shown here with CEO Gary Wagner and Board Chair Kathy Houser) received the “Rainbow Honors Award” for their work over the past eight years. Through the program, Michael and Marlys have helped Ranchers learn how to create paintings all their own. First, Ranchers select images that inspire them, then the couple guides them through the process of recreating these images as paintings, with remarkable results. The award recognized their “vision, inspiration, and dedicated volunteer service” as well as their “love, compassion and affirmation” for the Ranchers.



### VOCATIONAL PROGRAM HELPS MORE RANCHERS GAIN OFF-CAMPUS JOBS

In January 2019, Rainbow Acres launched Project Discovery, a nationally-renowned vocational training program, for Ranchers who wanted to develop their job skills and seek new jobs in Yavapai County. To establish the program, Rainbow Acres generated support from donors including the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County, the Henry W. Bull Foundation, and Albertson’s Companies, and hired a team of highly-qualified educators.

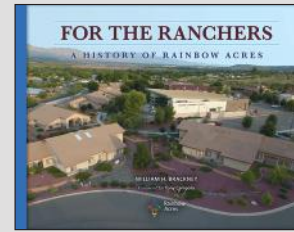
In the program’s first year, Rainbow Acres succeeded in achieving both of its initial goals: increasing the number of Ranchers employed off-campus by 5 total (with a goal of 5-10) and increasing the number of businesses employing Ranchers by 6 total (with a goal of 3-5). As of December 2019, 19 Ranchers were employed off-campus by 13 businesses in Yavapai County. The new program significantly enhanced Rainbow Acres’ capability for serving the Ranchers’ vocational needs, even as it enabled Rainbow Acres to diversify the group of businesses employing Ranchers.



### ‘FOR THE RANCHERS’ DETAILS RAINBOW ACRES’ COMPLETE HISTORY

In conjunction with its 45th anniversary, Rainbow Acres published a new large-format book that presents the first comprehensive history of this Christian community for adults with special needs, from its founding in 1974 by Ralph Showers and its formative years, through the arrival of Gary Wagner in 1996 and its continued growth and expansion.

In addition to chronological events, *For the Ranchers: A History of Rainbow Acres* explores aspects of the community’s culture and many individuals who were instrumental to its development. Drawing on internal documents, interviews and scrapbooks, and enhanced by never-before-published photographs, the book provides an in-depth look at an inspired – and inspiring – way to empower adults with special needs. In October, Rainbow Acres made the book available for purchase on its website, in the Gift Shop, and at Camp Verde’s history museum.



- #### ADMISSIONS
- Welcomed 6 new Ranchers (with net gain of 3 Ranchers after departures)
  - Conducted 50 tours, follow-up contacts with prospective Ranchers/families
  - Marketed admissions as attendee/speaker/vendor at national conferences



### Ranchers explore the outdoors through hiking excursions

The outdoor beauty of northern Arizona provided wonderful experiences for the Ranchers in 2019. In April, they visited one of their favorite places: Grand Canyon National Park! At Desert View, the Ranchers enjoyed walking along the paved trail on the south rim and venturing up the four-story observational tower. At the Visitor Center, they learned how the canyon was formed over time and watched a large-screen movie on the park’s history and conservation efforts. In May, the Ranchers hiked the red-rock trail along Oak Creek (between Flagstaff and Sedona). Several Ranchers submerged in the river before enjoying lunch under a sycamore tree. Oak Creek Canyon is a river gorge that is often described as a smaller cousin of the Grand Canyon because of its scenic beauty.

### Heavy snow blankets Rainbow Acres for some unique winter fun

How rare! On February 21-22, some heavy snowfall came to northern Arizona! The Ranchers and staff had an amazingly fun “snow day” with everyone playing in the snow, building snowmen, and making snow angels. The group also had some massive snowball fights between the Ranchers and the staff! Of course, safety came first, so the fun ensued after everyone made sure the ranch was ready. The staff temporarily closed the Palmer Center, shifted all meals to home delivery, cancelled off-campus work hours, and cleared roads and sidewalks. Then the fun began! Over the years, Rainbow Acres has seen many snowfalls, but not as often in recent years. When they do, everyone appreciates the beautiful sight of snow in the Verde Valley – and the opportunities it brings.



### NEW H&W CENTER EXPANDS APPROACH TO ON-SITE MEDICAL SERVICES

For over 15 years, the Health & Wellness Center operated in a double-wide trailer on the Ranch. Then, in 2019, the center moved into Baldwin House – a beautiful, spacious location that was renovated to facilitate on-site medical care for the Ranchers. With this move, the staff of the Health & Wellness Center became better prepared than ever before to address health needs on the Ranch – fortunately, just before the arrival of the novel coronavirus in 2020.

The new Health & Wellness Center features a waiting room that has a calming effect with soothing colors, modern artwork, and an inviting reception desk; an alcove designed just for “weigh day” (one of the most popular health-related activities); treatment rooms that can be used by staff nurses as well as visiting physicians; rooms for mobile lab and x-ray services; and private offices that allow Ranchers and their families to meet with the staff privately. The renovation also provided a new storage room, an educational room, and a dedicated room for storing medical records.



- #### HEALTH & WELLNESS
- Moved operations to Baldwin House, enhancing personal service and privacy
  - Addressed more than 1,800 on-ranch medical appointments with staff support
  - Transported Ranchers to more than 1,600 off-ranch medical appointments

### PROGRAMS

- Launched new Project Discovery courses to enhance Life Skills and Job Skills
- Provided support for 5 additional Ranchers to gain off-campus employment
- Encouraged 6 additional Yavapai County businesses to employ Ranchers

### CAMP PROVIDES RANCHERS, STAFF WITH SPIRITUAL RENEWAL, INSPIRATION

In September, over 70 Ranchers and employees attended their first “Inspirational Camp” at Tonto Rim Christian Camp, located on the Mogollon Rim near Payson, AZ. Based on its popularity, Rainbow Acres is hoping to make “Inspirational Camp” a reoccurring event! Funding for this first event was provided by the Worden Endowment, which was created by long-time Rainbow Acres donors and volunteers Phyllis and Winston Worden.

The three-day camp included activities such as outdoor games, swimming and kayaking at nearby Willow Springs Lake. At the end of the day, the Ranchers sang campfire songs and made S’mores around the fire. Worship and inspirational teaching were provided by special guests Pastor Shaker Samuel, his wife Nicolette, and their daughter Hannah, of First Baptist Church, Murphysboro, IL. “This was a wonderful opportunity for our Ranchers and staff to enjoy the beautiful outdoors, experience fellowship, and reconnect with their Creator,” Chaplain Mitch Koonce said.



### Weaving work featured in show at Clarkdale Public Library

In early 2019, the Ranchers’ work in the Weaving Studio took center stage for a new exhibit at the Clarkdale Public Library. The showing featured the Ranchers’ beautiful loom-woven rugs, pillows, placemats, wall hangings, shawls and more. The exhibit included work by Ranchers Kelly Como, Chipeta Difani, Katie Flores, Pauline Guthrie, John McCarthy, Safia Newmark, Brent Peterson, Greg Swenson, Debbie Tedford and Jack Wadleigh. Each year, the Ranchers receive recognition and ribbons for the woven items they enter in the Verde Valley Fair. In late 2019, Rainbow Acres began the process of preparing a new, enlarged space for the Weaving Studio in the Daehler Building. The renovation work continued in 2020, with the looms moving into the new space mid-year.

